

Amendments to the Specification:

After the title and before the first paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

THIS APPLICATION IS A U.S. NATIONAL PHASE APPLICATION OF PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PCT/JP2004/007897.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 2, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Among light emitted from superimpose lens 154, red light "R" is reflected and separated at dichroic mirror 156R. Among light transmitted through dichroic mirror ~~56R~~156R, green light "G" is reflected and separated at dichroic mirror ~~56G~~156G, so that blue light "B" is transmitted.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 3, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A light source illuminates the optical modulator. A first lens array divides light emitted from the light source into a plurality of partial luminous fluxes. A second lens array superimposes the plurality of partial luminous fluxes emitted from the first lens array onto the optical modulator. A diaphragm mechanism is disposed between the ~~diaphragm mechanism~~ light source and the optical modulator, and controls an amount of light from the light source.

Please replace the paragraph, beginning at page 11, line ²⁶~~27~~, with the ^{SB} ¹⁻²³⁻⁰⁷ following rewritten paragraph:

In Figs. 9A and 9B, diaphragm blades 11c and 11d are formed as a straight line. In this case, areas to be light-shielded by respective cells of the second lens arrays becomes equal one another, so that borders between brightness and darkness of respective cells correspond with one another at a projected image formed by superimposing. Therefore, non-uniformity of brightness is generated at positions indicated by arrows 301, 302, 303 and 304 in Figs. 9A and 9B. Particularly, for example, when the diaphragm value changes from a state of Fig. 9A to a state of Fig.